

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended): A cassette for storing a stimuable phosphor sheet having a stimuable phosphor layer formed on a sheet-form substrate, the stimuable phosphor sheet being used for recording a radiation image therein, the cassette comprising:

an emitter for emitting an erasing light to the sheet stored in the cassette;

a power supply for causing the emitter to emit the erasing light; [[and]]

a control circuit for controlling a time of emission from the emitter powered by the power supply; and

a releasing mechanism for allowing the stimuable phosphor sheet to be removed from the cassette to have the radiation image read out recorded thereon read out.

2. (Original): A cassette as defined in Claim 1, wherein the control circuit controls the time of the emission based on control information input from outside thereof.

3. (Original): A cassette as defined in Claim 2, wherein the control circuit controls the time of the emission based on the control information output from an apparatus for photographing the radiation image in the stimuable phosphor sheet.

4. (Original): A cassette as defined in Claim 2, wherein the control circuit controls the time of the emission based on the control information output from an apparatus for registering photographing information regarding the stimuable phosphor sheet.

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5. (Original): A cassette as defined in Claim 2, wherein the control circuit controls the time of the emission based on the control information output from an apparatus for reading radiation image information from the stimuable phosphor sheet.

6. (Original): A cassette as defined in any one of Claims 2 to 5, further comprising a terminal for receiving the control information from the outside thereof.

7. (Original): A cassette as defined in any one of Claims 2 to 5, further comprising a radio reception means for receiving the control information from the outside thereof.

8. (Original): A cassette as defined in any one of Claims 2 to 5, further comprising an infrared reception means for receiving the control information from the outside thereof.

9. (Original): A cassette as defined in Claim 1, wherein the power supply comprises a rechargeable secondary battery.

10. (Original): A cassette as defined in Claim 9, wherein the secondary battery is a lithium-ion battery.

11. (Original): A cassette as defined in Claim 9 or 10, further comprising means for receiving a charging electric current supplied from outside of the secondary battery to the secondary battery.

12. (Original): A cassette as defined in Claim 1, wherein the emitter comprises a non-organic or organic electroluminescence material.

13. (Original): A cassette as defined in Claim 1, wherein the emitter is placed facing a surface of the stimuable phosphor sheet on a side of the stimuable phosphor layer.

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14. (Original): A cassette as defined in Claim 1, the stimuable phosphor sheet having the stimuable phosphor layer formed on the substrate that allows the erasing light to pass through, and

the emitter being placed facing a surface of the stimuable phosphor sheet on a side of the substrate.

15. (Original): A cassette as defined in Claim 1, the stimuable phosphor sheet having the stimuable phosphor layer formed on the substrate that allows the erasing light to pass through, and

the emitter being placed facing a surface of the stimuable phosphor sheet on a side of the stimuable phosphor layer and facing a surface of the stimuable phosphor sheet on a side of the substrate.

16. (Original): A cassette as defined in Claim 1, further comprising display means for indicating that the emission from the emitter is going on and/or completed.

17. (Original): A cassette as defined in Claim 1, further comprising:
time measuring means for measuring a time elapsed after completion of the emission from the emitter; and

re-erasing control means for causing the emitter to emit the erasing light again when the elapsed time measured by the time measuring means reaches a predetermined amount of time.

18. (Original): A cassette as defined in Claim 1, further comprising warning means for issuing a warning if the emitter is still emitting the erasing light when information indicating that the cassette is in a photography stand-by state is input thereto.

19. (Original): A cassette as defined in Claim 18, further comprising detection means for detecting the photography stand-by state of the cassette for radiation image photographing and for inputting the information indicating the stand-by state to the warning means.

20. (Currently Amended): ~~A cassette as defined in Claim 1, further comprising A~~
cassette for storing a stimuable phosphor sheet having a stimuable phosphor layer formed on a
sheet-form substrate, the stimuable phosphor sheet being used for recording a radiation image
therein, the cassette comprising:

an emitter for emitting an erasing light to the sheet stored in the cassette;

a power supply for causing the emitter to emit the erasing light;

a control circuit for controlling a time of emission from the emitter powered by the power
supply; and

emission stopping means for stopping the emission from the emitter if the emitter is still emitting the erasing light when information indicating that the cassette is in a photography stand-by state is input thereto.

21. (Original): A cassette as defined in Claim 20, further comprising detection means for detecting the stand-by state of the cassette for radiation image photographing and for inputting the information indicating the photography stand-by state to the emission stopping means.

22. (Original): A radiation image photographing apparatus using the cassette defined in Claim 3, the radiation image photographing apparatus comprising:

means for inputting information related to a radiation dosage for the stimuable phosphor sheet as the control information to the control circuit of the cassette.

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23. (Original): A radiation image photographing apparatus using the cassette defined in Claim 18, the radiation image photographing apparatus comprising:

detection means for detecting the stand-by state of the cassette for radiation image photographing and for inputting the information indicating the photography stand-by state to the warning means of the cassette.

24. (Original): A radiation image photographing apparatus using the cassette defined in Claim 20, the radiation image photographing apparatus comprising:

detection means for detecting the stand-by state of the cassette for radiation image photographing and for inputting the information indicating the photography stand-by state to the emission stopping means of the cassette.

25. (Original): A photographing information registration apparatus for registering information regarding radiation image photographing using the cassette defined in Claim 4, the photographing information registration apparatus comprising:

means for inputting information related to a radiation dosage for the stimuable phosphor sheet as the control information to the control circuit of the cassette.

26. (Original): A photographing information registration apparatus for registering information regarding radiation image photographing using the cassette defined in Claim 18, the photographing information registration apparatus comprising:

detection means for detecting the stand-by state of the cassette for the radiation image photographing and for inputting the information indicating the photography stand-by state to the warning means of the cassette.

27. (Original): A photographing information registration apparatus for registering information regarding radiation image photographing using the cassette defined in Claim 20, the photographing information registration apparatus comprising:

detection means for detecting the stand-by state of the cassette for the radiation image photographing and for inputting the information indicating the photography stand-by state to the emission stopping means of the cassette.

28. (Original): A radiation image information reading apparatus for reading the radiation image information from the stimuable phosphor sheet stored in the cassette defined in Claim 5, the radiation image information reading apparatus comprising:

means for inputting information related to a dosage of radiation for the stimuable phosphor sheet as the control information to the control circuit of the cassette.

29. (Previously Presented): A cassette as defined in claim 1, wherein the emitter has a surface area substantially equal to a surface area of the stimuable phosphor sheet.

30. (Previously Presented): A cassette as defined in claim 29, wherein the emitter is made of flexible materials.

31. (Previously Presented): A cassette as defined in claim 1, wherein the power supply has a thickness of approximately 2-3 mm and is coplanar to the emitter.

32. (Previously Presented): A cassette as defined in claim 31, wherein the power supply is made of flexible materials.

33. (Previously Presented): A cassette as defined in claim 30, wherein the power supply has a thickness of approximately 2-3 mm and is coplanar to the emitter.

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34. (Previously Presented): A cassette as defined in claim 1, wherein the stimuable phosphor sheet and the emitter are coplanarly layered above the power supply substantially along an entire length of the power supply.

35. (Currently Amended): A cassette as defined in claim 1 ~~comprising~~ wherein the releasing mechanism comprises a hinged opening for removal of the sheet from the cassette.

36. (Previously Presented): A cassette as defined in claim 35 wherein the power supply is disposed within the case such that an edge of the power supply is flush with the hinged opening.

37. (Previously Presented): A cassette according to claim 6 wherein the terminal comprises an electrical contact disposed on an outside surface of the cassette.

38. (Currently Amended): A cassette as defined in claim 1, ~~further comprising~~ wherein the releasing mechanism comprises an opening and a lid disposed at said opening, wherein the lid can be opened so the stimuable phosphor sheet is conveyed through said opening to a read-out apparatus for reading out a radiation image information recorded on the stimuable phosphor sheet.